SUNDAY

08 / 23 / 2020

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to: Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all

411 156TH AVE NE BELLEVUE, WA 98007 425 746 7300 crossofchristbellevue.org

Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church



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In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.



WORDS OF WELCOME

Pastor Dave Thomas

OPENING SONG



Words and Music: Ruben Morgan and Jonas Myrin CCLI No, 1703692 © 2012 Hillsong Music Publishing



GOD IS IN THIS PLACE

GATHERING PRAYER

P Let us pray: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life, and confess our faith in your Son, the Messiah, the Savior of the world. Stir in us an ever-growing desire to speak your truth in love to others, that others may join us in following the way of grace, led by our Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 51:1-6 (The Message)

L A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁻³ "Listen to me, all you who are serious about right living and committed to seeking God.

Ponder the rock from which you were cut, the quarry from which you were dug.

Yes, ponder Abraham, your father, and Sarah, who bore you.

Think of it! One solitary man when I called him, but once I blessed him, he multiplied.

Likewise I, God, will comfort Zion, comfort all her mounds of ruins.

I'll transform her dead ground into Eden, her moonscape into the garden of God,

A place filled with exuberance and laughter, thankful voices and melodic songs.

⁴⁻⁶ "Pay attention, my people.

Listen to me, nations.

Revelation flows from me.

My decisions light up the world.

My deliverance arrives on the run, my salvation right on time.

I'll bring justice to the peoples.

Even faraway islands will look to me and take hope in my saving power.

Look up at the skies,

ponder the earth under your feet.

The skies will fade out like smoke, the earth will wear out like work pants, and the people will die off like flies.

But my salvation will last forever, my setting-things-right will never be obsolete.

- L Word of God. Words of Life.
- C Thanks be to God!



PSALM

Psalm 138 (The Message)

L Psalm 138.

¹⁻³ Thank you! Everything in me says "Thank you!" Angels listen as I sing my thanks.

I kneel in worship facing your holy temple and say it again: "Thank you!"

Thank you for your love,

thank you for your faithfulness;

Most holy is your name,

most holy is your Word.

The moment I called out, you stepped in; you made my life large with strength.

⁴⁻⁶ When they hear what you have to say, God, all earth's kings will say "Thank you."

They'll sing of what you've done:

"How great the glory of God!"

And here's why: God, high above, sees far below; no matter the distance, he knows everything about us.

⁷⁻⁸ When I walk into the thick of trouble, keep me alive in the angry turmoil.

With one hand

strike my foes,

With your other hand

save me.

Finish what you started in me, God.

Your love is eternal—don't quit on me now.

- L Word of God. Words of Life.
- C Thanks be to God!



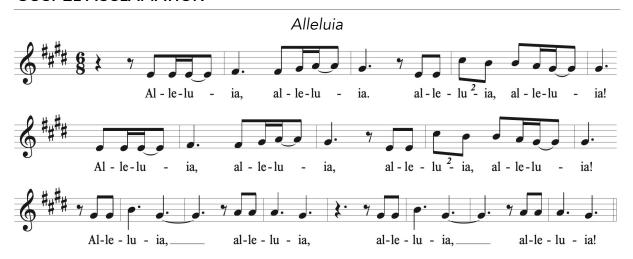
SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-8 (The Message)

- L A reading from Romans.
 - ¹⁻² So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.
 - ³ I'm speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him.
 - ⁴⁻⁶ In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't.
 - 6-8 If you preach, just preach God's Message, nothing else; if you help, just help, don't take over; if you teach, stick to your teaching; if you give encouraging guidance, be careful that you don't get bossy; if you're put in charge, don't manipulate; if you're called to give aid to people in distress, keep your eyes open and be quick to respond; if you work with the disadvantaged, don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face.
- L Word of God. Words of Life.
- C Thanks be to God!



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Text and Music: Pillar Church © 2013



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20 (The Message)

- P Hear the Good News, as recorded in St. Matthew, the 16th chapter.
 - ¹³ When Jesus arrived in the villages of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "What are people saying about who the Son of Man is?"
 - ¹⁴ They replied, "Some think he is John the Baptizer, some say Elijah, some Jeremiah or one of the other prophets."
 - ¹⁵ He pressed them, "And how about you? Who do you say I am?"
 - ¹⁶ Simon Peter said, "You're the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷⁻¹⁸ Jesus came back, "God bless you, Simon, son of Jonah! You didn't get that answer out of books or from teachers. My Father in heaven, God himself, let you in on this secret of who I really am. And now I'm going to tell you who you are, really are. You are Peter, a rock. This is the rock on which I will put together my church, a church so expansive with energy that not even the gates of hell will be able to keep it out.
 - ¹⁹ "And that's not all. You will have complete and free access to God's kingdom, keys to open any and every door: no more barriers between heaven and earth, earth and heaven. A yes on earth is yes in heaven. A no on earth is no in heaven."
 - ²⁰ He swore the disciples to secrecy. He made them promise they would tell no one that he was the Messiah.
- P This is good news.
- C Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Pastor Dave Thomas

We Confess



SONG OF THE DAY

Beautiful Things

verse 1, v2, chorus, v3, ch, ch, bridge, ch, ch



Words and Music: Lisa and Matt Gungor CCLI No, 1703692 © worshiptogether.com songs



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

OFFERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

- P May God Creator bless you and keep you.
 May Christ be ever light for your life.
 May the Spirit of Love be your guide and your path for all of your days.
 In the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



CLOSING SONG



Words and Music: Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Elizabeth Kaple, Matt Redman, Pat Barrett CCLI No, 1703692 © 2016 Martin, Karl Andrew | Kaple Music | Capitol CMG Genesis | Housefires Sounds | Said And Done Music | sixsteps Music | Thankyou Music | worshiptogether.com songs | Bethel Music Publishing



SENT TO SERVE

- P Jesus said, "As I have been sent, so also I send you." By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:
- C Worship God,
 Grow in Faith,
 Share the Gospel,
 Serve Others,
 Welcome All. Thanks be to God!